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FM AMEMBASSY ZAGREB
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SIPDIS

USTR: PASS USTR FOR HIRSH
STATE/EB/TPP/MTA EKOCH
USDOC FOR COMMERCE/TCC/4110
USDA/ITP/FAS/ BERTSCH
USDOC FOR 3150/USFCS/OIO/EUR/CEENIS/PBRADLEY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [HR](#)

SUBJECT: TRADE AGREEMENT COMPLIANCE AND
MONITORING - EMBASSY ZAGREB

REF: STATE 152063

¶1. Embassy Zagreb has established a team at post as per reftel to monitor trade agreements and respond to foreign trade barrier complaints. Post notes that prior to this request to establish such a team, all relevant agencies were already collaborating in such activities. As presently structured, the team consists of representatives from the ECON section, POL and the Commercial Service.

¶2. Post Contact: Senior Commercial Officer Tom Kelsey. E-mail address is Thomas.Kelsey@mail.doc.gov, telephone +385 1 661 2090.

¶3. To date, most activities have centered around Croatia's noted deficiencies in the IPR area, specifically the lack of a linkage between marketing authorization and patent approval for pharmaceutical products. Post agrees with recent USG discussions to focus on this specific weakness which places Croatia on the 301 list year after year.

¶4. Emboffs are in frequent contact with the U.S. business community as well as with their EU counterparts. Ongoing chapter screening exercises as Croatia prepares for EU membership also surface potential problems. AMCHAM Croatia is another resource by which we learn of complaints. Although many of the reported problems do not fit within a strict definition of trade agreements, taken as a whole they constitute barriers of one kind or another to expanded trade and investment. We continue to focus embassy activities and programs on creating a positive environment for U.S. businesses and their local partners.

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